

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5        1. A PCI card assembly, comprising:

a framework;

10        a PCI riser card connected to the framework  
and disposed in a generally vertical  
orientation;

15        a first PCI card coupled to the PCI riser  
card and oriented generally  
perpendicular to the PCI riser card;

20        a second PCI card coupled to the PCI riser  
card and disposed generally  
perpendicular to the PCI riser card,  
the second PCI card extending from the  
PCI riser card in a direction opposite  
that of the first PCI card; and

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6. The PCI card assembly as recited in claim 4,  
further comprising a connector configured to electrically

7. The PCI card assembly as recited in claim 4,  
5 wherein the lever system includes a pair of lever members.

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20           10. The server as recited in claim 9, further  
comprising a PCI riser card disposed between and coupled to  
the pair of opposed PCI cards.

11. The server as recited in claim 10, wherein the framework comprises a center framework portion to which the PCI riser card is mounted.

5        12. The server as recited in claim 11, wherein the PCI card assembly further comprises a lever system to move the PCI card assembly between an installed position and an eject position.

10        13. The server as recited in claim 12, wherein the lever system is pivotably mounted to the framework for pivotable motion about a pivot.

15        14. The server as recited in claim 13, wherein the lever system comprises a lever member having a gripping end disposed on one side of the pivot, further wherein the chassis includes a stationary feature configured for engagement with the gripping end.

20        15. The server as recited in claim 14, wherein the lever system comprises a handle connected to the lever member on an opposite side of the pivot from the gripping end, further wherein movement of the handle when the

gripping end is engaged with the stationary feature causes lateral movement of the PCI card assembly.

16. The server as recited in claim 13, wherein the  
5 lever system comprises a pair of lever members mounted for pivotable motion about the pivot and connected to each other by a handle.

17. The server as recited in claim 14, wherein the  
10 first PCI card and the second PCI card are standard size, full length PCI cards.

18. The server as recited in claim 12, wherein the  
15 first PCI card and the second PCI card are disposed in a vertically staggered position.

19. The server as recited in claim 14, wherein the  
framework includes a plurality of retention features  
designed to engage the chassis when the framework is moved  
20 to the installed position.

~~20~~. A method for deploying a pair of full length PCI  
cards in a low profile processor-based device, comprising:

mounting a pair of PCI cards to a PCI riser card  
disposed therebetween;

vertically staggering the pair of PCI cards; and

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providing a connector coupled to the PCI riser  
card through which the pair of PCI cards may  
be electrically coupled with the processor-  
based device.

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21. The method as recited in claim 20, wherein  
mounting comprises mounting the pair of PCI cards in a  
framework having a height permitting installation in a 1U  
device.

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22. The method as recited in claim 21, further  
comprising mounting the framework in a 1U server.

23. The method as recited in claim 22, further  
20 comprising connecting a lever system to the framework to  
provide mechanical advantage for engaging the connector.

24. The method as recited in claim 23, further comprising actuating the lever system to move the framework between an eject position and an installed position.

5           25. The method as recited in claim 23, further comprising providing the 1U server with a chassis having a stationary engagement feature configured for engagement with the lever system.

10           26. The method as recited in claim 25, further comprising forming the lever system with a pair of lever members connected by a handle.

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